

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NSC-05 ISO-00 OPR-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00

USSS-00 SY-04 CPR-01 EUR-12 PRS-01 (ISO)W

----- 012457

O R 191400Z NOV 74

FM USDEL VLADIVOSTOK

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0018

WHITE HOUSE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L VLADIVOSTOK 0020

E.O. 11652: ADS: DECLASSIFY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1974

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO VLADIVOSTOK: PROTOCOL ARRANGEMENTS

DEPT FOR 'A' WHITE HOUSE FOR ADVANCE OFFICE.

SEOUL FOR ADVANCE PARTY, BUFFALO; TOKYO FOR PRESIDENTIAL PARTY (HENKEL/ HUNT/ CATTO)

1. AT MEETING WITH SOVIET COUNTERPARTS 2100 HRS LOCAL TIME NOVEMBER 19, ADVANCE PARTY SOUGHT IN VAIN TO ELICIT ANSWERS TO LONG-STANDING QUESTIONS WHICH ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY URGENT AS VISIT APPROACHES.

2. ALTHOUGH SOVIET COUNTERPARTS HAVE PROMISED, SINCE PRE-ADVANCE MEETINGS TO SEEK ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SUCH AS LIST OF MEMBERS OF SOVIET OFFICIAL PARTY, THEY TONIGHT STATED, FOR FIRST TIME, THAT EMBASSY MOSCOW SHOULD OBTAIN LIST FROM MFA.

3. EMBASSY THEREFORE REQUESTED TO SEEK ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FROM MFA ON URGENT BASIS, AND ADVISE VLADIVOSTOK AND PRESIDENTIAL PARTY BOTH AS TO INITIAL MFA ORAL RESPONSE AND OF DEFINITIVE ANSWERS WHEN PROVIDED:

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(A) WHO WILL COMPRISE SOVIET OFFICIAL PARTY.

(B) WHICH SOVIET AND AMERICAN MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL PARTIES DOES SOVIET SIDE PLAN TO HAVE ENTER VIP BUILDING AT AIRPORT FOR REFRESHMENTS UPON ARRIVAL (NOTE: SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY IN VLADIVOSTOK DID INDICATE THAT NUMBER WOULD BE SMALL ON BOTH SIDES, NOTING THAT IN MOSCOW LAST SUMMER ONLY PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR HAD ATTENDED SIMILAR FUNCTION.)

(C) WHAT EXCHANGE OF GIFTS DOES THE SOVIET SIDE COMTEMPLATES? (NOTE: THIS QUESTION WAS POSED BY AMBASSADOR CATTO TO CHIEF OF PROTOCOL NIKIFEROV DURING PRE-ADVANCE TOGETHER WITH OBSERVATION THAT ANY PERSONAL FI GIFT WOULD BE OF MODEST VALUE, IN THE SPIRIT OF U.S. VIEWS ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF FOREIGN FI GIFTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS. THE SOVIET ADVANCE PARTY HAS BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE NO ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION AND APPEARED UNSURE OF ITS ABILITY TO DO SO, ALTHOUGH AWARE OF SIGNIFICANCE OF SUCH INFORMATION IN FACILITATING U.S. PLANNING FOR AN APPROPRIATE RECIPROCAL GIFT.

4. PARTY ACKNOWLEDGES NOTIFICATION OF AMBASSADOR

STOESSEL'S PLANS TO FLY TO JAPAN COMMERCIALY AND TRAVEL TO VLADIVOSTOK FROM JAPAN ABOARD AF-1 NOVEMBER 23.

THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VLADIV00020
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: AS SIFY AFTER DECEMBER 31, 1974
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740345-0267
From: VLADIVOSTOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741129/aaaaaylo.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION A
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <20 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO VLADIVOSTOK: PROTOCOL ARRANGE- MENTS
TAGS: OVIP, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005